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**PATENT APPLICATION**  
Attorney Docket No. APL-P2684

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE PATENT APPLICATION OF )  
William C. Athas et al. ) Examiner: Unassigned  
Serial No: 09/996,229 ) Group Art Unit: 2121  
Filing Date: November 30, 2001 )  
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR )  
QUANTIFYING THE NUMBER OF )  
IDENTICAL CONSECUTIVE DIGITS WITHIN )  
A STRING )

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR EXPRESS ABANDONMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.138**

M/S: Express Abandonment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

In connection with the above-referenced U. S. patent application, transmitted herewith is  
Form PTO/SB/24 Express Abandonment Under 37 CFR 1.138.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 6, 2004